

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Wray (Ray) S5971

VA

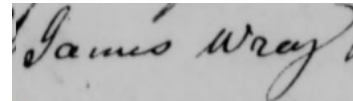
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Sep 2014.

Virginia Franklin County Sct

On this day towit the 27th of September 1832 personally appeared before me John H Waid [sic: John H Wade] a justice of the peace in the county aforesaid – James Ray aged according to his register Seventy Six years who from bodily infirmity cannot attend Court – who as first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 Said Ray says he was in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit. first tour he served during the revolutionary war was in the year [blank] was at the lead mines [near Fort Chiswell in present Wythe County] to protect said mines from the Indians and Tories – that he was drafted to go out of Bedford County Va where he resided – the company he belonged to was commanded by Captain Moses Greer [pension application S8609] who is yet living and is now the presiding justice of Franklin County court – and to said Greer he refers the department for information if necessary as to the fidelity of his conduct as a soldier. that he continued to serve till he was discharged – how long this tour lasted he does not undertake to say – The tours however were he believes three months — This much he knows he stayed in the service till discharged — After his return home he was ordered out he verily believes three different times under Captain Isaac Renfro after the Tories on the Carolina line and in the mountains where they had sought to secure themselves and took many of them — Capt Renfro acted under the orders of Colo [Thomas] Arthur in pursuit of the Tories in the mountains and towards the Carolina line – The number or length of these several tours he cannot remember but being a Whig and devoted to the cause of independence he was ready and obeyed every call —

In the winter of 1780 & 81 he was drafted and marched from his residence in Bedford in a company commanded by Captain John Chiles – Lieut was Minis Haynes [Parmenas Haynes] – the name of the ensign he has forgot. the company marched to Petersburg in Va where they were united with other troops and remained at Petersburg a short time then went on to Cabin point in [Surry County] Va, which was headquarters for a short time. from Cabin point the troops were marched to Sleepy hole ferry [on Nansmond River] from there we marched near Cabin point where he was discharged. The army was commanded by Gen'l Mulingburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] – who he remembers well, Maj'r Jones he also remembers well and other officers. He got a written discharge – which he files along with this declaration. he has no other documentary evidence if he had other discharges they are lost — One of his neighbours Abraham Abshire [S6459] was with him on the first tour mentioned here at the lead mines and was also frequently along in the tours mentioned herein against the Tories – Jarvis Burdett [S16680] and John Tire yet living in Franklin County Va were with him as soldiers in his last tour to Petersburg Cabin point Sleepy hole &c He says on his oath that he believes he served in all at least Eighteen months — He has resided in Franklin County Va ever since the War – and refers to his neighbours generally for his character – He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid



NOTE:

Wray's discharge was not found, but a typed summary states that he was discharged from his last tour on 19 April 1781.

A note on the pension certificate indicates that James Ray died on 8 Nov 1834.